

God, America is blessed to have heroes such as these men, and I am honored today to commend them as heroes whose courage and selflessness should serve as an example to all Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF HORACE L.
DICKERSON, JR.

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions to our great country by a fine public servant who has selflessly given his time and talents to help his fellow man. Horace L. Dickerson, Jr. has served as the Southwest Regional Commissioner for the Social Security Administration since 1997. This position culminated a career that began in 1971. He has spent the past 34 years working with employees that Mr. Dickerson fondly refers to as "his family."

In his time with the Social Security Administration, Mr. Dickerson has been an outstanding example to his fellow employees, taking care of the needs of the American people. He has always carried with him an innate understanding that the institution he worked for was charged with an important public duty. To carry out that mission meant completing every task at the highest standards achievable.

His work ethic is to be admired and we can only hope duplicated. He fostered communication between his employees and encouraged teamwork to produce outstanding results for the people he serviced.

He retires with the admiration of his co-workers and a grateful administration. On behalf of the people of Louisiana's 7th Congressional District and the American public, I thank Horace L. Dickerson for his years of public service.

HONORING ANGELO REGUSCI OUT-
STANDING AGRICULTURALIST OF
THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angelo Regusci who has been named the 2005 Agriculturalist of the Year by the Napa County Farm Bureau.

I have had the privilege of knowing the Regusci family for nearly all of my life. Angelo, the family's patriarch, has spent the last eight decades as a dairyman, cattle rancher, farmer, businessman, viticulturalist and winemaker in the heart of the Napa Valley's Stags Leap District. Mr. Regusci, as I always referred to him while growing up just a short distance from his family's ranch, is a man of great talent and practical wisdom.

Mr. Regusci grew up living the hardscrabble life of rancher's son. He and his sister Isabella worked side-by-side with their parents Gaetano and Livia as they wrestled a living from the land through hard work and perseverance. Their stunning 286-acre ranch on the Silverado Trail was purchased by Angelo's fa-

ther in 1932 or the princely sum of \$22,000. As the economics of agriculture evolved over the next fifty years, Angelo and his family transitioned their love of labor and land from dairy to prunes to beef and ultimately to premium wine grapes. Throughout this entire time, Angelo and his family remained pillars of their community for their contributions to the advancement of agriculture and their work on behalf of local youths wanting to pursue future careers in farming.

Angelo Regusci began selling grapes door-to-door decades before his now famous Stags Leap District started producing coveted \$100 bottles of Cabernet. He and his brother-in-law sold grapes by the ton to first and second-generation Italian, Portuguese, German and Greek home winemakers who kept alive the custom of making wine at home. I am told the price varied from \$50 to \$70 per ton, depending on whether they had to carry the bins more than two flights of stairs.

Angelo and Mary Regusci have produced many of the Napa Valley's greatest resources, but their finest contribution to our community has been the wonderful children they have raised and shared with all of us. They should be extremely proud of Jim, Joe, Bernadette and Martha.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize and honor Angelo Cesare Regusci for his contributions to American agriculture and for being awarded the 2005 Napa County Farm Bureau Agriculturalist of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, on July 11, 2005, I missed two recorded votes. I take my responsibility to vote very seriously. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Con. Res. 168, a resolution condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the abductions and continued captivity of citizens of the Republic of Korea and Japan as acts of terrorism and gross violations of human rights, rollcall No. 363; and "yea" on H. Res. 333, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a "National Weekend of Prayer and Reflection for Darfur, Sudan", rollcall No. 364.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 11, 2005, I was absent for votes because of my inability to travel due to Hurricane Dennis which hit the State of Alabama on July 10, 2005. I missed rollcall votes Nos. 363 and 364. Had I been present for votes, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 363 and 364.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
COLONEL ROBERT A. ROWLETTE,
JR.

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Colonel Robert A. Rowlette, Jr., Commander of the Louisville Engineer District since July 2002. Colonel Rowlette will retire from active duty with the U.S. Army on September 1st of this year, with over 26 years of dedicated service to our nation.

A native of Berea, Kentucky, Colonel Rowlette was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from the University of Kentucky where he earned both a Bachelor's and Masters degree in Civil Engineering. During his military career, Colonel Rowlette's leadership, vision and dedication to duty have contributed significantly to the national defense, economic prosperity and quality of life for our citizens.

As Commander of the Corps of Engineers' Louisville District, Colonel Rowlette oversaw Army, Air Force and DOD military construction projects valued in excess of \$350 million annually. Major military installations supported include, Fort Campbell and Fort Knox in Kentucky, Scott Air Force Base near St. Louis, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton as well as Army and Air Force Reserve facilities nationwide. Additionally, Colonel Rowlette has been responsible for comprehensive water resources and project operations in 76,000 square miles of the Ohio River watershed, providing flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration and commercial navigation.

Colonel Rowlette extended his leadership well beyond the assigned missions of the Corps of Engineers by personally participating in regional events and promoting a strong partnership between Army and civilian engineers. As immediate Past President of the Society of American Military Engineers' (SAME) Kentuckiana Post, Colonel Rowlette was responsible for hosting the 2005 Joint Engineer Education and Training Conference where more than 1,200 participants came together for professional development.

Prior assignments also reflect Colonel Rowlette's commitment to military readiness and willingness to share his considerable talents for the good of others. His service as Commander of the Charleston (South Carolina) District supported our nation's vital deep-draft ports and operation of the Atlantic Intra-coastal Waterway; as Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he helped prepare our future Army leaders; and while serving in a variety of combat battalion assignments he helped provide the military deterrence necessary for peace.

A good neighbor and valued steward of our defense assets and natural resources, Colonel Rowlette will be remembered for his spirit of service, patriotism and dedication to our nation. On the occasion of his retirement, I wish to extend my best wishes to Colonel Rowlette, his wife Janet and their children Robert and Meredith.